

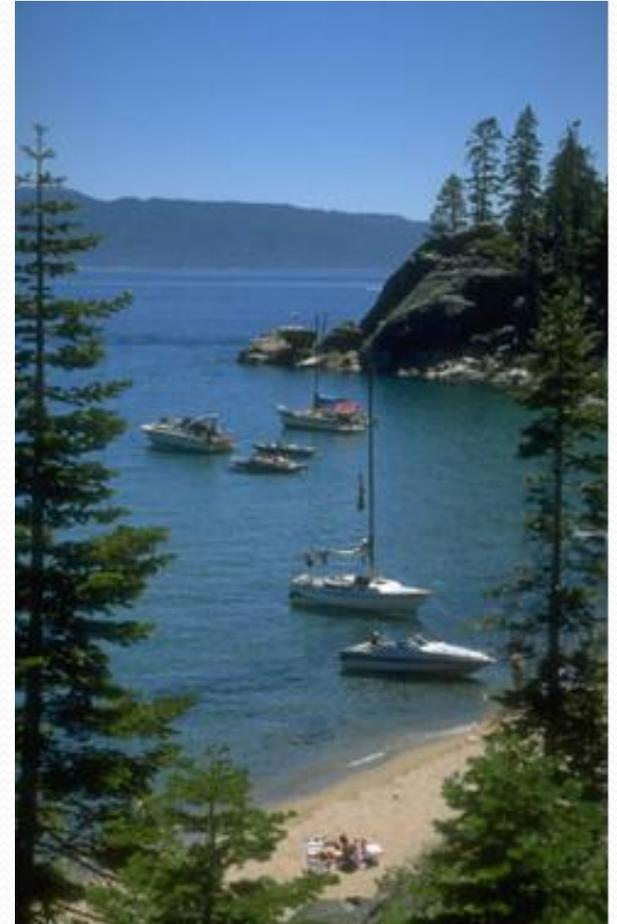
Recreational Boaters of California SOCAL BOATER FORUM

Hosted by Dana Point Yacht Club
February 29, 2012



Presenters

- Daniel Hodge
Commodore, DPYC
- Cleve Hardaker
President, RBOC
- Walt Kadyk
Past President \ Director, RBOC
Past Commodore, DPYC
- Jerry Desmond, Jr.
Director of Government Relations, RBOC
- California Boaters Here Today
Q&A





RBOC
Protecting your boating interests.

Who We Are

- Nonprofit boater advocacy organization “of boaters, for boaters”.
- We work to protect and enhance the interests of the state’s recreational boaters before the legislative and executive branches of state and local government.
- 2012 is our 44th year as a statewide organization promoting the enjoyment, protection, and responsible use of our waterways.
- RBOC is supported by the much-appreciated, voluntary contributions of California boaters.
- Some of our RBOC Directors are here this evening. There are 18 voluntary members of our Board, from throughout the state.

What We Do

RBOC lobbies dozens of legislative and regulatory proposals each year impacting:

- Operation of motorboats, sailboats, personal watercraft, sailboards, kayaks and canoes
 - Education, wearing lifejackets, intoxicated boating prohibitions, teak surfing, noise limits, inspections
- Equipment on our vessels
 - Anti-fouling paints, fuel, engines, skier-down flags, sacrificial anodes, cut-off switches
- Accessibility of our waterways
 - Permits, prohibitions, restrictions, barriers, launch ramps, pumpouts, marinas
- What we pay to recreate
 - Registration fees, fuel taxes, sales taxes, entrance fees, launch fees, broker license fees





Copper on Boat Hulls

- San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
- TMDL for Copper
- Potential Statewide Permit
- SB 623 [Kehoe], potential ban on copper-based anti-fouling paints
- New Scientific Information
- Status and Next Steps

Federal Issues



RBOC Working Partnership with BoatU.S.

- Ethanol Debates
 - Informed by the fact that the USCG stopped using ethanol-based fuels as a result of maintenance issues they were experiencing
- Mandatory Life Jacket Wear
 - Two fronts of note:
 - USCG Advisory Council's consideration of a North American standard to include people older than ages 12-13.
 - In waters regulated by the US Corps of Engineers, agency has full authority to mandate life jacket use by water users of all ages at all times – without benefit of hearings or public discussions.

Federal Issues continued

- Mandatory EPIRBS
 - Requirement at 3 miles offshore on any waters -- including lakes.
- GPS Signal Integrity
 - Degradation of the system utilized by marine and aviation industries due to interference from a proposed new 4G communications system.
- Prop strikes
 - Regulation under discussion would require boaters to check behind the boat to insure that the props are clear of swimmers

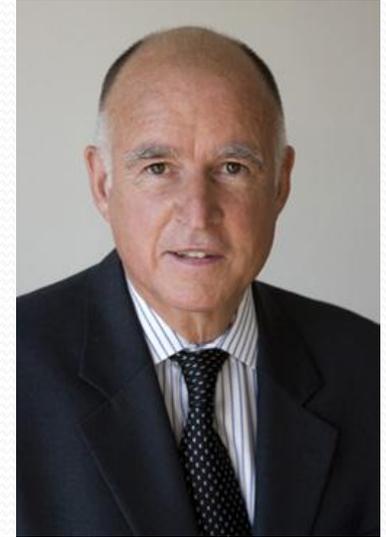


At the Capitol Right Now

Governor Jerry Brown's Proposal to Eliminate Cal Boating
What the Recreational Boating Community Can Do Today



Governor Brown's Proposal



Making Government More Efficient – January 11 Proposal

- Governor is proposing a comprehensive package of additional efficiencies:
 - Reorganizing state government to eliminate and consolidate agencies, departments, and programs
 - Eliminating unnecessary boards, commissions, and advisory groups
 - Changing the budget process to increase efficiency and focus on accomplishing program goals
 - Permanently eliminating surplus positions
 - Implementing additional efficiencies

Reorganizing State Government – the Governor’s Rationale

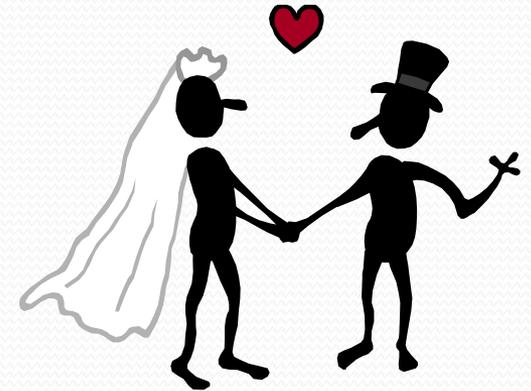
- The state’s current organizational structure lacks sense and cohesion.
- Agencies lack focus by having multiple missions, similar functions are scattered throughout several agencies, and some departments and programs are duplicative.
- The Budget makes government less costly and more efficient, more sensible, and easier to manage effectively.
- Among other changes, the proposal reduces the number of agencies from 12 to 10, eliminates 39 state entities.



Eliminating Cal Boating & Transferring its Functions to State Parks

- **The Governor's Reasoning**

- They Already Work Together:
 - “The Department of Parks and Recreation currently partners with Boating and Waterways in facilities construction projects.”
- The Department is Already Helping Parks:
 - “Boating and Waterways funds operations at all of Parks’ reservoirs.”
- This has Been Done to Others:
 - “This proposal will transfer the functions of the Department of Boating and Waterways to a division of the Department of Parks and Recreation, similar to the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Division.”



And the Commission will Go, Too

“Because the Department of Boating and Waterways is being transferred to the Department of Parks and Recreation, the California Boating and Waterways Commission will be eliminated.”

- The Duties will be Absorbed:
 - “The Commission advises the Department of Boating and Waterways on matters within its jurisdiction and consents to all boating facilities loans and grants. The duties performed by the Commission will be absorbed by the Department of Parks and Recreation.”
- A Trap for the Unwary



The Real Story

if Cal Boating is eliminated



- **No** savings of state general fund dollars
- **No** reduction of duplication
- **No** overlap of functions
- **Loss** of transparency
- **Loss** of accountability
- **Loss** of leadership
- **Loss** of boating programs in the future

The Real Objective



- Follow the Money....
 - State Parks has tremendous funding woes
 - Cal Boating is a \$69 million “money tree” that can help cure those woes

Why Boaters Should Care

- **Cal Boating provides accountability, transparency and leadership**

Regarding the collection and use of boater-derived taxes and fees, and the best use of these funds for programs that benefit boating.

- **Eliminating Cal Boating would not save a single General Fund dollar.**

All of the Department's funding is boater – generated.

- **Eliminating the department would not help resolve the current budget crisis.**

The department is funded by boater fuel tax dollars, registration fees, and interest payments on infrastructure loans.

- **Cal Boating creates jobs through loans and grants of boater funds for boating infrastructure**

throughout the state that ensures boater access to waterways.



Why Boaters Should Care

- continued

- This state's more than 4 million boating enthusiasts must have a department with a Director whose primary focus is boating.
- Cal Boating has a compact organizational structure

And administers boating programs in a timely and non-bureaucratic manner. Its statutory charter is directly boating-related.

- Cal Boating is the **Gold Standard:**





What is Cal Boating?

It is the state-level Department that utilizes boater fees and taxes, and repayment of loans of boater monies to provide programs and services that benefit boaters.

- **Mission Statement**

- To provide safe and convenient public access to California's waterways and leadership in promoting the public's right to safe, enjoyable, and environmentally sound recreational boating.

- **Key Dates in the Department's History**

- 1957 - Small Craft Harbors Commission and Division of Small Craft Harbors created in Department of Natural Resources.
- 1959 – State registration requirement established for most undocumented vessels, with laws and regulations governing equipment and operation, as well as boat accident reporting.
- 1961 - Division of Small Craft Harbors was relocated to the Department of Parks and Recreation.
- 1964 - Boat registration revenues begin to be paid into the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund.
- 1966 - Division of Small Craft Harbors became the Department of Harbors and Watercraft, and the Small Craft Harbors Commission became the Harbors and Watercraft Commission.
- 1968 - Department begins to administer yacht and ship broker licenses and to oversee brokers and salesmen. 1969 - Boat registration fee funds become available to counties meeting specific criteria.
- 1969 –Department of Harbors and Watercraft is re-named as the Department of Navigation and Ocean Development.
- 1979 – Department renamed as the Department of Boating and Waterways, and the Commission became the California Boating and Waterways Commission.

What Cal Boating does for Boaters

Boating Facilities Programs

- Loans to Local Public and Private Entities
- Grants to Local Public and Private Entities
- Boating Facilities on State-Owned and Managed Lands (State Capital Outlay)
- Aquatic Centers on State-Owned and Managed Land (State Capital Outlay)
- Clean Vessel Media Campaign
- National Boating Infrastructure Grants to Local Public Entities
- Design Guidelines



What Cal Boating does for Boaters

continued



Boating Law Enforcement Programs

- Grants to Local Public Entities
- Law Enforcement Training
- Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund (AWAF) (Grants to Local Public Entities)
- Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) (Grants to Local Public Entities)

Boating Safety and Education Programs

- Educational Outreach for School-Age Children
- Educational Outreach to General Public
- Life Jacket Use
- Multimedia Safety Campaign
- Boating Accident Statistics

What Cal Boating does for Boaters

continued

Boating Environmental Programs

- Boating Clean and Green
- Quagga/Zebra Mussel Control
- Aquatic Weed Control
- Oceanography
- Beach Erosion and Restoration

Boating Consumer Protection Programs

- Yacht and Ship Brokers Licensing Program
- For-Hire Vessel Operator Licensing Program



What is at Risk for Boaters

- **Money** - Fees and taxes paid by boaters will not be used for the intended purposes.
- **Transparency** - The special revolving fund administered by Cal Boating will no longer be transparent.
- **Service** - The efficiency and effectiveness of boating programs and services will be compromised.
- **Priority** - Boater programs and services will become a lower priority and could eventually be eliminated.
- **Leadership** - Boaters will not have a single-minded leader with a department-level status in the state agency.



RBOC Is Lobbying Now

RBOC is stressing that Cal Boating provides accountability, transparency and leadership regarding the collection and use of boater-derived taxes and fees, and the best use of these funds for programs that benefit boating.

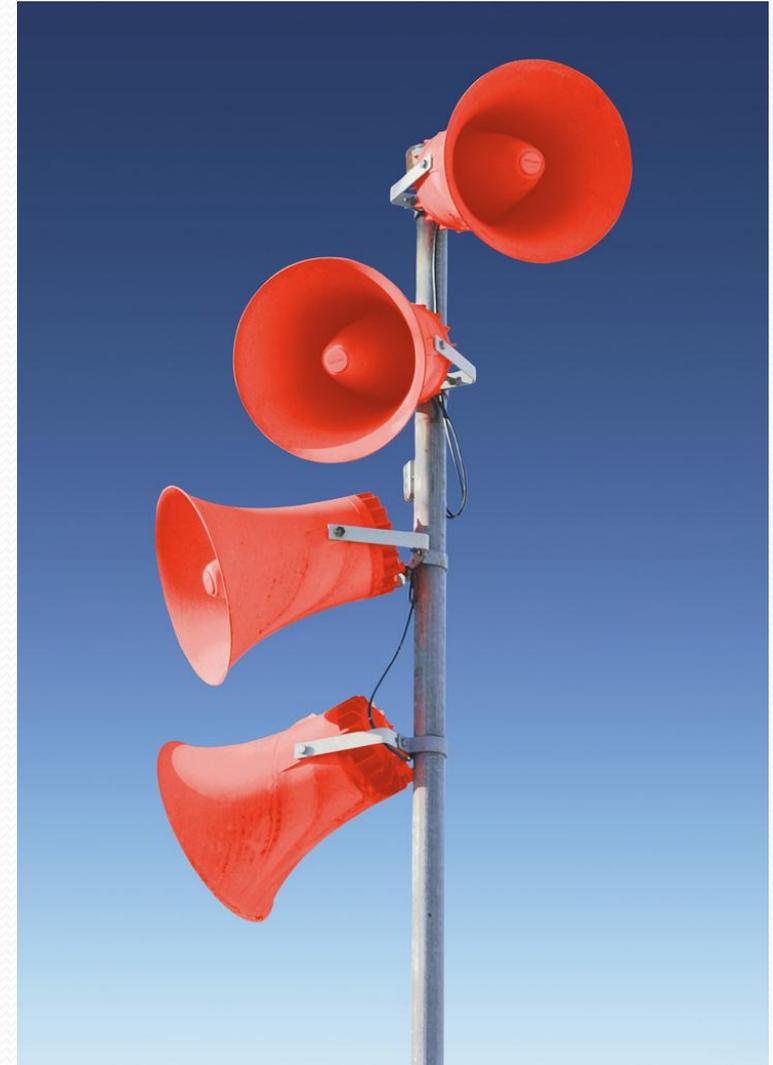


- We are lobbying aggressively on a number of fronts:
 - **Governor's Administration** – in an effort to have the proposal withdrawn
 - **State Legislature** – informing members of the Senate and Assembly and urging them to oppose the proposal
 - **Other Interests** – we are building our army of like-minded interests within the recreational, marine business, and government communities.
 - **Press** – working to develop coverage of our concerns and pieces that further our position
 - **Grass Roots** – communicating directly with boaters as well as others and energizing these efforts.

We are Calling Boaters to Action

RBOC is urging boaters to speak up in opposition to Governor Brown's proposal.

- The tenacity of the boating community has intensified each time the proposal to eliminate the independent Cal Boating has been considered.
- Efforts by the entire boating community are needed again to produce an acknowledgement of the value and importance of Cal Boating in the State Capitol.
- Boaters are encouraged to take action!
 - Sign and submit the form letter of opposition.
 - Obtain letters from other boaters.
 - Obtain approval of businesses and organizations to be listed in opposition.
 - Contact your legislator in the State Assembly and State Senate.
 - Visit www.RBOC.org to get links to your legislators.
 - Inform the press and others through social media.
 - Sign-up to participate in the rallies at the hearings in the Capitol.
 - Sign-up to follow us on Twitter.
 - Visit www.RBOC.org today and make a financial contribution with PayPal or a credit card.
 - [deductions are not tax deductible due to RBOC's extensive lobbying activities]



Next Steps



- **The Governor's proposal could be pursued as either:**
 - Formal reorganization plan
 - Stand-alone legislation
 - Budget trailer bill
 - Governor's directive
- **First Opportunities are in March**
 - 2:30 pm in Room 2040 on Wednesday, March 21 in the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #2
 - 9:00 am in Room 447 on Wednesday, March 28 in the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #3

Thank you for your efforts

In taking action now to Save Cal Boating



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